

Alabama State Board of Social Work Examiners
Board Meeting Minutes
February 18, 2010

The regular meeting of the Alabama State Board of Social Work Examiners was held on Thursday, February 18, 2010, at 100 North Union Street, Suite 736 in Montgomery, Alabama with the chairman and secretary present. Board chairman, Teresa Young, called the meeting to order at 9:32 a. m. Ms. Young introduced graduate student intern Allison Clark who observed the meeting.

There was a quorum of members present including:

District V member Teresa Young – Board Chair

District I member Sharon Argiro – Board Vice Chair

District III member Leisa Askew- Board Secretary

District IV member Paula Johnson

District II member Janet Rawls

District VII member James Ware

District VI member Mandy Andrews

Executive Director Brenda Holden and Assistant Attorney General Ellen Leonard were also present. Unless otherwise specified, all votes were taken by a show of hands. Proper notice for the meeting was provided to the Secretary of State and posted on the Secretary of State website.

Approval of Minutes

A copy of the minutes was distributed and reviewed. A motion was made by Paula Johnson to approve the minutes as they stand. James Ware seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Old Board Business:

- a. Ms. Holden stated that three open complaints are pending, including one complaint under investigation and two complaints in the process of being completed.
- b. The Board reviewed and approved the list of new licensees.
- c. Ms. Holden passed out the recommendation from the Administrative Hearing Officer on the case of Sharon Jones for the Board to review and discuss. James Ware made a motion to accept and approve the hearing officer's recommendations. The motion was seconded by Paula Johnson. Paula Johnson, James Ware, Teresa Young, and Leisa Askew were in favor of the motion. Sharon Argiro opposed the motion. Janet Rawls and Mandy Andrews abstained from voting.
- d. Randle Mellen made an appearance per the request of the Board. Teresa Young requested a motion for executive session to discuss the good name and character of Mr. Mellen. James Ware made a motion to go into executive session for ten minutes to discuss the matter. Paula Johnson seconded the motion. The vote for executive session was approved by affirmative votes of Teresa Young, Sharon Argiro, Leisa Askew, Paula Johnson, Janet Rawls, James Ware and Mandy Andrews.
Teresa Young called the Board into executive session at 9:35 a. m. Janet Rawls made a motion to come out of executive session at 9:57 a. m.

James Ware seconded the motion which was approved by affirmative votes of Teresa Young, Sharon Argiro, Leisa Askew, Paula Johnson, Janet Rawls, James Ware and Mandy Andrews. Teresa Young asked if there was any further discussion. With no further discussion, James Ware made a motion that Mr. Mellen be allowed to sit for the LBSW exam. Janet Rawls seconded the motion. The vote was approved by affirmative votes of Teresa Young, Sharon Argiro, Leisa Askew, Paula Johnson, Janet Rawls, James Ware and Mandy Andrews.

- e. Rebecca H. Williams addressed the Board to request continuing education waiver for her LCSW. Janet Rawls made a motion for a one-time waiver for the remaining seven hours of CEU credits due to extenuating circumstances. Paula Johnson seconded the motion. The motion was passed by affirmative votes of Teresa Young, Sharon Argiro, Leisa Askew, Paula Johnson, Janet Rawls, James Ware and Mandy Andrews.
- f. Janet Rawls requested to address the letter sent to Sharon Argiro about the increase in licensure renewal fees. The letter was reviewed and discussed with the Board. The minutes from the September, October, and December 2009 Board meetings were reviewed and discussed in regard to that issue. Sharon Argiro made a motion to rescind the motion calling for an increase in fees that was passed during the September 18, 2009 Board meeting. James Ware seconded the motion and the vote was approved by affirmative votes of Teresa Young, Sharon Argiro, Leisa Askew, Paula Johnson, Janet Rawls, James Ware and Mandy Andrews.
Sharon Argiro requested that the Board review with licensees the rationale for future proposed fee increases prior to notice of a public hearing.

Board member Janet Rawls excused herself from the remainder of the Board meeting at 10:20 a.m.

- g. At the request of the Board, Ms. Lesandra Judkins appeared to discuss her request to sit for the LBSW exam. Paula Johnson made a motion to proceed into executive session to discuss the good name and character of Ms. Judkins for ten minutes. Leisa Askew seconded the motion. Motion approved by affirmative votes of Teresa Young, Sharon Argiro, Leisa Askew, Paula Johnson, James Ware and Mandy Andrews. Teresa Young called the Board into executive session at 10:25 a. m. Paula Johnson made a motion to come out of executive session at 10:34 a. m. Leisa Askew seconded the motion and the vote was approved by affirmative votes of Teresa Young, Sharon Argiro, Leisa Askew, Paula Johnson, James Ware, and Mandy Andrews.

Board Chair Teresa Young called a fifteen minute recess at 10:35 a.m. and resumed the Board meeting at 10:50 a.m.

The Board requested additional information from Ms. Judkins. Paula Johnson made a motion to table Ms. Judkins' request to take the LBSW exam until Ms. Judkins had submitted the additional information to the Board. James Ware seconded the motion. The vote was approved by affirmative votes of James Ware, Paula Johnson, Mandy Andrews, Teresa Young, and Leisa Askew. Sharon Argiro opposed.

- h. As requested by the Board, Ms. Donna Jean Austin-Southern appeared to discuss her application to take the LGSW exam. Mandy Andrews made a motion to go into executive

session to discuss the good name and character of Ms. Austin-Southern for fifteen minutes.

Paula Johnson seconded the motion and the vote was approved by affirmative votes of Teresa Young, Sharon Argiro, Leisa Askew, Paula Johnson, James Ware and Mandy Andrews. Ms. Young called the Board into executive session at 10:55 a. m. and Leisa Askew made a motion to come out of executive session at 11:13 a.m. Paula Johnson seconded the motion and the vote was approved by affirmative votes of Teresa Young, Sharon Argiro, Leisa Askew, Paula Johnson, James Ware and Mandy Andrews. Leisa Askew made a motion that Ms. Austin-Southern be allowed to sit for her LGSW exam. Mandy Andrews seconded the motion and the vote was approved by affirmative votes of Teresa Young, Sharon Argiro, Leisa Askew, Paula Johnson, James Ware and Mandy Andrews.

- i. Dr. Jenny Savage addressed the Board about social work practice at the clinical level. Dr. Savage presented her findings relating to private practice issues and diagnosis at the LCSW licensure level. She requested clarification about diagnostic and assessment methods in terms of education and practice applications. Ms. Young stated that the Board would form a committee to review current laws and study the issue. James Ware, Sharon Argiro, and Mandy Andrews volunteered to serve on the committee. The Board will provide Dr. Savage with the results.

James Ware and Ellen Leonard excused themselves from the meeting at 11:40 a. m.

New Board Business:

- a. Board Chair Teresa Young is tentatively scheduled to speak to the North AL Chapter of NASW at their meeting in March. Brenda Holden will present at the Attorney General's Conference in April. Leisa Askew and James Ware will represent the Board at the Alabama Social Work Conference in February.

PIP Applications:

- a. Elizabeth Ann Bernardi was approved for Social Casework, Clinical Social Work, and Social Work Administration. She was denied Community Organization.
- b. Mary Cunningham Burnette was approved for Social Casework and Clinical Social Work and denied Social Work Administration.
- c. Vanessa German Graves was approved for Social Casework and Clinical Social Work
- d. James Allen Hall was approved for Social Casework, Clinical Social Work and denied Social Work Research.
- e. Betty Lou Houser was approved for Social Casework and Clinical Social Work
- f. Leslie M. Kahn was approved for Social Casework, Clinical Social Work and denied Community Organization and Social Work Administration
- g. Fredrick Hayes Miller was approved for Clinical Social Work

- h. Bethany Joyce Powell was approved for Social Casework, Clinical Social Work and denied Community Organization and Social Work Administration.
- i. Pamela Lynn Savage was approved for Social Casework and Clinical Social Work.
- j. Charlie L. Jones was approved to add Social Work Administration.
- k. Marcia E. Mayfield was approved to add Social Work Research
- l. Jill Marie Sims-Hill was approved to add Social Casework and Clinical Social Work.

Other Request:

- a. INR request for CE approval was denied for “Left & Right –Handedness” and “Immune Power: Allergies, Fatigue & Fibromyalgia”
- b. Trenholm State Technical College request CE approval was approved for “Counseling a Non Diet Healthy Lifestyle Program, approved for Taking Care of Aging Parents, denied for HIV & Nutrition, denied for Counseling Uninformed Older Adults, approved for Counseling Family to Promote a Healthy Lifestyle for Children, approved for Association with Teenage Obesity, approved for Alcohol Problems with Family Relationships.
- c. The Board agreed to approve a one-time CE waiver for Rhonda S. Dennis for her LBSW.
- d. The Board agreed to deny Ms. Carol Adams’ request for approval of a continuing education workshop.
- e. The Board agreed to approve a one-time continuing education waiver requested by Ms. Lynn Abbott for her LCSW.
- f. Troy University was approved for continuing education for “Counseling Family to Promote a Healthy Lifestyle for Children”.
- g. Ms. Stephanie Fredrick was approved a one-time continuing education waiver for her LBSW.
- h. Ms. Berinda Hollis was requested by the Board to complete thirteen months of supervision.
- i. The Board agreed that Ms. Jennifer Burr needed six months of additional supervision for her licensure.
- j. The Board approved Howard Dodson’s request for approval of continuing education program received while on active duty.

The next Board meeting is scheduled for May 7, 2010 in the Board Conference Room. Paula Johnson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Leisa Askew seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 1:20 p. m.

Board Chair

Board Secretary

Teresa Young, LCSW

Leisa Askew, LBSW